

has adjoining tea gardens. This town is also slowly and gradually eroded by the river Brahmaputra and there is no protection at all. Only five kilometres is left and there is no support, not even the earthen bank to stop it. If it comes in spate the entire Jorhat town will go to the river and the town will convert into a river-bed. Probably, Sir, you are aware of the fact that the largest river island of India is here and half of it has already been eroded by the river and more than ten thousand people were completely uprooted. It was the seat of art and culture and religion and all these cultural centres have gone into water during the recent years.

Sir, the most important thing that I want to say is that the erosion caused by the river Brahmaputra is also affecting the Kaziranga game sanctuary. I may show you here one picture. This is the picture of river Brahmaputra. You see first the river Brahmaputra was here and then within two years it has come and slowly and gradually eroded this much and the Bokakhat and the Kaziranga areas are affected. We all know that Kaziranga is national park, having all the rare species and if it is eroded, all the cherished species in the Kaziranga will be lost and this will form a part of the river and then none can protect it if timely action is not taken to protect it. There is one project to protect Kaziranga which is called Mariahata but that has not materialised. That has been taken up by the Central Government and it is about 3 kilometres from the point of the river bed.

Another point is about establishment of Brahmaputra River Board. This Board was established in 1950. For the last six years, crores of rupees have been spent just for paper work and in that way, huge fertile land and all other resources and even a few towns have gone under the water. The Central Government asked the people of Assam to wait for the monsoons. Even the report of Brahmaputra Board has not been published. I want to know whether there is any secret behind it because crores of rupees have been spent already and I do not know how the Government can afford to spend so much!

money without seeing to proper implementation of the project.

If the Brahmaputra river is properly harnessed, it can produce 9466 MW of electricity and it can meet the requirement of 50 per cent of the people of India.

Then, Sir, according to Mr. S. N. Phu-kan, Secretary of the Brahmaputra Board, the cost of taming Brahmaputra will be Rs. 6,000 crores and once the work is completed, it will give a return of Rs. 3,000 crores by way of electricity generation ...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI H. HANUMANTHAPPA): You can send the details to the Minister; three minutes for special mention are over.

SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY: I appeal for more time. Unless my full speech is heard, it is of no avail. I would request the Minister to take steps to stop erosion in the State of Assam.

#### **Reference to the Influx of Chakma Tribal refugees from Bangladesh into Tripura**

SHRI NARAYAN KAR (Tripura): I draw the attention of the House to the situation arising out of large-scale influx of Tribal Chakma refugees from Bangladesh into Tripura.

Sir, there has been a large-scale influx of tribal Chakma refugees from Bangladesh into Tripura. Already more than 25 thousand tribal refugees have crossed over the border and taken shelter in Tripura. The reason for large scale influx is supposed to be insecure atmosphere prevailing in Chittagong Hills of Bangladesh. Tripura is a small and over-populated State and this large scale influx of tribals is a burden for Tripura and it has created serious problems for social and economic conditions of the State.

Tripura State Government is trying its best to provide shelter, food and other

[Shri Narayan Kar]

amenities to the refugees. Central Government have to take the entire financial responsibility to maintain the refugees but present financial help is meagre compared to expenditure borne by the State Government.

The secessionist and anti-national forces are active to utilise the refugee problem for their ulterior motive. In Mizoram there is a movement to dissolve the Chakma Autonomous District Council. Government of Mizoram are not able to save the situation. The refugees are mostly of Chakma community and they can easily be influenced by the secessionist forces against the Government of Tripura as well as Government of India. The State Government apprised the Central Government several times about the situation and requested to take up the issue at high political level with Bangladesh Government to create a sense of security there which will be conducive for refugees to go back to their place. But till now there is no sign of the situation receding; rather more refugees are entering Tripura everyday, making the problem more complex. Refugees themselves would be reluctant to return, particularly in view of repression and mass killing of tribals in Chittagong hill tracks. What they need is some guarantee for security of life and property, stoppage of Muslim settlement, restoration of tribal lands, compensation for property destroyed and protection of their culture and identity. I would, therefore, request the Central Government to exercise its influence with the Bangladesh Government for an immediate solution of the present problem of refugees and also provide adequate financial help to cope with the situation.

**REFERENCE TO THE DEMANDS OF THE MEMBERS OF THE INDIAN ECONOMIC SERVICE**

DR. MOHD. HASHIM KIDWAI: (Uttar Pradesh); Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, the members of the Indian Economic Service, both recruited directly through competitive examinations and through de-

partmental examinations, have been adversely affected in respect of their seniority. The only promotion given so far to the senior-most batch of 1967 is a step higher to the rank of Deputy Director. While their batch-mates in other services are all either in the rank of Director or Joint Secretary. The IES batches from 1973 are yet to be confirmed as permanent employees. This is the only service which never had a cadre review although Parliament had been repeatedly told, that such a review will be done. Along with these matters, the failure of the Government to respond to their memorandum submitted earlier this year for promotional avenues on par with members of other Class I services, has led the members of the service to go on agitation and has caused gloom, frustration and discontent among them. The need of the hour is that Government should consider the demands of the members of the Indian Economic Service sympathetically and give relief to them by giving them promotions in public undertakings or giving them some other assignments. In that way, the Government will be fully utilising the expertise and experience of these officers. Taking into consideration that the operation of the Indian Economic Service is painfully slow and it is not being fully utilised in the economic Ministries, it becomes still more necessary that immediate steps should be taken by the Government to remove the genuine grievances of the members of the Indian Economic Service, to fully utilise the services of the members of this service and put an end to the prevailing frustration and discontent among them.

**REFERENCE TO THE PROPOSED STRIKE BY TEACHERS IN COLLEGES OF ALL UNIVERSITIES IN BIHAR**

श्री कैलाशपति मिश्र (बिहार) :  
उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, कल 5 अगस्त से बिहार के सभी विश्वविद्यालयों के सभी अंगीभूत कालेजों के 20 हजार शिक्षक हड़ताल पर जा रहे हैं। दस लाख विद्यार्थी, उन्हें अब क्लास में, कक्षा में बैठने की जगह नहीं होगी और वे सड़कों